

indicates that the approaches to the latter town are in the hands of the Germans, and that the fate of Dvinsk is in doubt.

East of Vilna, north of Pinsk, and in the vicinity of Lutsk the Russians have scored heavily. The Germans characterize their reverses east of Vilna as a temporary tactical advantage—as of a temporary character, notwithstanding their losses of guns and prisoners. Near Pinsk, Von Mackensen was thrown back in an engagement that has shaken his grip on the city. Farther south the Russians now holding Lutsk are pressing their advantage, and seem to be assuming the dominance of the southern end of the line in a manner recalling the fighting of last spring.

Athens states that mobilization is proceeding to-day, and that thousands of men are already in uniform.

NEW OFFENSIVE MOVEMENT BY ALLIES IN WEST

BERLIN, September 25 (by wireless to Tuckerton, N. J.).—The overseas news agency said today that a new offensive movement has been begun by the allies on the western front.

"Neither the new offensive of our enemies on the western front nor the Greek situation has changed opinion in the political world," the news agency says. "The Greek mobilization is regarded as a measure of precaution for probable events. It is not expected that the King of Greece will give up his policy of neutrality as long as the interests of Greece are not impaired. The Greek policy of neutrality is expected here to be like that of Bulgaria; that is, similar to the armed neutrality of Holland and Switzerland."

STILL HOPE BULGARIA MAY AVERT HOSTILITIES

ROME, September 25 (via Paris, September 25).—Although it is admitted that the Bulgarian mobilization is a significant act, it is thought here events still may prevent Bulgaria from embarking upon so perilous an enterprise.

Reports from Bucharest indicate that the Bulgarian mobilization order is considered in Romania to be a precautionary measure. It is said that impressive anti-German manifestations have resulted in the Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, personal representative of Emperor William, hastening his departure for Berlin.

MOBILIZATION ORDER CAUSES GREAT RELIEF

ATHENS, September 25 (via Paris, September 25).—Great relief has been caused throughout Greece by the order calling for the mobilization of the army. The people apparently are glad to exchange the uncertainties of politics for the possibility of war. It is not thought, however, that hostilities will follow immediately, although it is generally believed in unofficial circles at least that a struggle between Greece and Bulgaria cannot be avoided eventually.

Mobilization is under way to-day, and is proceeding quietly. The people are somewhat bewildered by the latest turn of events, not knowing whether it may lead them.

King Constantine, who recently passed through a severe illness, is indisposed, and his conferences with Premier Venizelos have been postponed for a day.

ATTITUDE OF ROMANIA MAKES GERMANY BITTER

AMSTERDAM, September 25 (via London).—Voicing the bitterness that is being manifested throughout Germany at the attitude of Roumania, the Cologne Gazette says:

"Whatever happens in the Balkans, Roumania is played out. Her role as a link between Austria and Turkey is finished. We shall pass through Sofia. That will teach Roumania to side with our foes."

ACTION OF BULGARIA CAUSES ALLIES NO SURPRISE

PARIS, September 25.—The allied chancelleries were not surprised at the action of Bulgaria, according to the Petit Parisien. The quadruple entente powers' representatives are said to have been conferring during the past week as to the best means of acting with a maximum of effect in the Balkans, as they attacked little by little the declarations of Premier Radostoff. They now are in a position to strike quickly there, should the necessity arise, it is asserted, as there are important reserves at the Dardanelles which can be augmented quickly. Premier Venizelos of Greece, the Petit Parisien's Rome correspondent says, has affirmed the necessity for an agreement by Greece, Roumania and Serbia in order to force the Bulgarian government to consider carefully the possible results before it takes positive action.

COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON STEPS TO BE TAKEN

ATHENS, September 25 (via London).—King Constantine and Premier Venizelos at a conference today reached a complete agreement in regard to both the steps already taken by the government and the measures which are demanded to meet the Balkan situation.

These measures include maintenance of Greece's treaty obligations.

AMERICAN TROOPER ON BORDER MISSING

(Continued From First Page.)

Railroad between San Luis Potosi and Tampico. A vicious message was sent to Carranza from the authorities at Vera Cruz has resulted that positive orders have been given to prevent these depredations in the future. The fact that they still occur, however, is creating the impression in some quarters that Carranza may not be able completely to control the forces under him, if he is accorded recognition.

London dispatches at the War Department that Villa is no means as near defeat as recent dispatches have indicated. The highest experts of the department believe that Villa, who is characterized as very resourceful, has some military surprise in store for his opponents, and that he may yet recover his lost prestige by striking a severe blow before the October conference meets. His present movement, looking to a consolidation of all the forces now under him, it is said, justifies the suspicion that he is entering upon a new campaign that may turn Oregon south again.

In a communication to the State Department, the War Department today formally denied that American troops have at any time precipitated fighting on the border by firing first across the Rio Grande. This statement was made in a letter transmitting a report of General Funston to the State Department. The report confirms General Funston's telegram that a man in the form of a Mexican captain appeared

Federal Inquiry of Interest Rate

Investigation Into Alleged Exorbitant Charges to Cotton Growers by National Banks.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 25.—Treasury Department officials, it is learned to-day, are making an investigation into the charges that national banks in the cotton belt are asking exorbitant rates of interest on loans to cotton farmers.

W. D. G. Harding, the Southern member of the Federal Reserve Board, in a recent speech at Raleigh, declared that interest rates around 25 per cent are being charged in some localities in the South. This declaration has been taken for the foundation of a thorough investigation into the matter, and it is probable that the Treasury Department will issue a statement revealing the whole situation and the trouble of the Southern planter in having to finance the holding of his cotton crop for better prices.

to be in charge of the Mexicans who attacked the American forces yesterday at Progresso Ferry.

CARRANZA TROOPS HAD NO PART IN ATTACK

The Carranza agency here has informed the State Department that troops under the control of Carranza had no part in the attack. The positive statement is made that the Mexicans who engaged in the raid consisted of a band of irresponsible marauders, some of whom, having deserted, still wear their old uniforms. In anticipation of the effect this raid might have upon the probable recognition of the Carranza government, the agency hastened to issue a specific denial from its consul in Brownsville that Carranza soldiers had any part in the fight.

According to War Department officials, General Funston's men will not cross the river in pursuit of the Mexicans. Instructions permitting him to pursue Mexicans across the Rio Grande into Mexican territory can come only from the President. It was said to-night that such orders will not be given.

"Shoot to kill, down to the very edge of the river, but do not cross," is a liberal translation of the general orders of Funston to his men.

The Funston about Mexico City is improved. Acting Secretary of State Polk announced to-day, the department having made urgent representations, Carranza sent a large force of troops to patrol and keep the railroad open between Vera Cruz and the capital. In order to increase the strength of Obregon, many of the Carranza troops have been sent north to join him, and this has permitted Zapata and his followers to liberate the capital from the south and interfere with free communication between Mexico City and the coast.

The State Department to-day received news confirming the press dispatches of yesterday that more than thirty persons were killed in the streets at Canaca by Carranzistas, and that American women were forced to flee to the border. Villa forces have arrived at Guadalupe, where a number of American refugees are ready to leave on the steamer Carlos. A dispatch stated that the State Department in forms the State Department that 129 Americans arrived there this morning from Durango, Toluca and Chihuahua. Those from Durango were eight days on the road.

Official confirmation reached the War Department to-day that General Raon Madero and members of his staff having crossed into the United States, had been apprehended, turned over to the jurisdiction authorities and will be interned.

VILLA TROOPS REPORTED EVACUATING TORREON

LAREDO, TEX., September 25.—Villa troops are evacuating Torreon and Carranza forces are entering that city to-night, according to a telegram received at Carranza headquarters in Nuevo Laredo. Details were withheld. Reports to-day indicated the Villa forces would offer stubborn resistance to the Carranza troops, who were said to be approaching Torreon from three directions.

Unconfirmed reports here said Villa was destroying the railway line between him and his retreat.

DWELLING HOUSE BURNED

The cottage of Leroy E. Brewster, located on the property of the Broad Rock Mineral Springs Company, in the Hill Street car line, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning shortly before 7 o'clock. The building was completely destroyed, as was the furniture, and only a few personal belongings were saved from the flames.

The origin of the fire is unknown. The family had eaten breakfast and Mr. Brewster and several children had gone to work. Mrs. Brewster and one small child were in the house at the time. She noticed flames coming from the flooring of the kitchen and went into the yard for a bucket of water to extinguish the fire. When she returned the flames had gathered such headway that she was forced to flee from the house. The fire apparently started under the dwelling, which is slightly elevated above the ground. Aid was rendered by the Broad Rock Mineral Springs company. The loss was placed at \$2,000, and with insurance carried on the building.

BOTH DISCLAIM BLAME FOR FIGHTING ON BORDER

Funston Reports His Men Repelled Raiders, Who Fled, Under Protection of Soldiers.

TELEGRAM FROM NAFARATTE

Asserts There Were No Carranza Troops in Vicinity of Battle—Officials in Washington Are Frankly Puzzled Over Situation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 25.—Major-General Funston, commanding United States troops on the border, and General Nafaratte, the Carranza commander, both disclaim for their men responsibility for the fighting yesterday near Progresso, Tex., in which one American trooper was killed and an officer was wounded, while the casualties of the Mexican raiders are not known.

Reporting to the War Department to-day, General Funston said his men had repelled the raiding party, which fled across the border under the protection of soldiers "in uniform," who were entrenched on the other side.

The Carranza agency gave out a telegram from General Nafaratte, asserting that there were no Carranza troops in the vicinity.

A full report on recent fighting along the border was made to the State Department to-day by the War Department. It states that in no case have American soldiers begun the firing, but it is admitted that civilians and deputy sheriffs in Texas have provoked some attacks. In yesterday's fight it is asserted an armed force invaded American territory, and that this party was repulsed.

Officials here are frankly puzzled over the border situation. General Carranza has directed General Jacinto Trevino to make a thorough investigation, and a clearer understanding of conditions along the Rio Grande is expected to result. Until authentic information is obtained as to the cause of the raids, the policy of the American government will be unchanged, and while raiders will be driven off, American troops will not be permitted to cross into Mexico in pursuit.

Explaining the visit of General Felipe Angeles to Washington, the Villa agency issued a statement to-night saying:

"General Felipe Angeles wishes to state that he has arrived in Washington as a member of the delegation appointed by the military chiefs of the provisional government to represent it in the peace conference planned, in accordance with the invitation of the Pan-American conference on August 25."

"Published reports that General Angeles has deserted from the convention army are false. These reports appear to have been inspired in Carranza sources in El Paso."

The State Department was advised today that representations made to General Carranza had resulted in orders designed to prevent a repetition of the seizure of cattle belonging to American citizens.

"The department was recently informed that Carranzistas had seized cattle belonging to American citizens on the railroad between San Luis Potosi and Tampico."

A dispatch from El Paso announced the arrival of 150 Americans from Torreon, Durango and Chihuahua.

BROADWAY SCENE OF LATEST FATAL SUBWAY CAVE-IN

(Continued From First Page.)

The surface and called for volunteers experienced in carpentry and plumbing. A score of men responded to the request and were lowered down. It reminded one of a coal-mine disaster, except that the crowd was curious instead of waiting.

When the accident happened a man who was identified only as George Salto had started to cross the street toward the Casino Theater. His foot had just touched the wooden covering of the street when it began to sink under him. He fell with it. Crashing a projecting timber as he descended, he clung there.

After the panic had somewhat subsided David McFadden, of the Hotel Marlborough, got down on his stomach and reached Salto. Then a human chain was formed and the man was hauled to safety.

The audience at the Casino and Ricksha Theater were assembled, and despite the danger both houses were soon filled.

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218 East Broad Street, Richmond, Va.

within were endangered, Commissioner Adamson issued an order that both houses be emptied. The audiences fled out of the side doors in an orderly manner. The chorus and principals at the Casino hurried out without removing their make-up, and added to the picturesque appearance of the crowd.

On the west side of Broadway, between Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth streets, are a number of two and three-story buildings. All of those were ordered closed and temporarily vacated by Commissioner Adamson.

At 11 o'clock to-night the appearance of the subway contract awarded to Broadway and Thirty-eighth Street gave every indication of falling. Engineers of the Public Service Commission made an examination and were so alarmed that all persons were ordered from the immediate vicinity.

An order was then issued by Police Commissioner Woods that all traffic should be suspended for the present from Thirty-second Street to Thirty-eighth Street.

Scarcely had the first injured been taken out than an investigation was under way. District Attorney Perkins had arrived on the scene and joined members of the Public Service Commission.

ACCIDENT CAUSED BY ROCK SLIDE

As in the disaster on Seventh Avenue, to-night's accident was on that part of the subway contract awarded to the United States Realty and Improvement Company. Commissioner Howard and his engineer agreed that the accident had been caused by a rock slide between fifty and sixty feet in extent, and ten feet wide, which had torn away the underpinning.

Travis H. Whitney, secretary of the Public Service Commission, said that the timber construction work was inspected yesterday and pronounced in good condition.

To-night's accident occurred less than a mile from that of Wednesday, when there were seven deaths.

DEATHS IN VIRGINIA

Mrs. Frank B. Ray.

Mrs. Ruth A. Ray, wife of Frank B. Ray, died yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Martin, 194 South Fifth Street, aged seventy-one years and two months. She was the mother of Frank S. Ray, of Janeway Farm, Glen Allen, Va. Arrangements for the funeral have been announced.

Major H. F. Schenck.

SHELBY, N. C., September 25.—Major H. F. Schenck, pioneer cotton manufacturer, died in a hospital here today as the result of an operation two weeks ago. He was seventy-nine years of age.

After serving in the War Between the States, Major Schenck entered the business and built the first large mill in North Carolina at Cleveland, near here. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1887, and was connected with a number of educational projects which he financed in different parts of the State. He was the son of the man who built the first cotton mill in Pennsylvania, at Lancaster.

R. N. Morris.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

APPOMATTOX, VA., September 25.—R. N. Morris, aged about sixty-six years, died at his home near here to-day of a long illness. He is survived by several daughters and sons: Mrs. Florence Bingham, Mrs. Annie Gilbert, Mrs. Lilly Ferguson, Mrs. Maude Lucado, Mrs. Assie Ferguson, Jessie Morris, Ed. Morris, Luther Morris, Dillard Morris, Charlie Morris, Jessie Morris and Leland Morris.

Interment will take place at the home burial ground.

John F. Taylor.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., September 25.—John F. Taylor, a well-known citizen of Caroline County, died suddenly at his home near Woodland yesterday, aged sixty-eight years. He is survived by three sons and one daughter.

Miss Ellen Thompson.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

ALEXANDRIA, VA., September 25.—Miss Ellen Thompson, who lived at Wellington, Fairfax County, died last night in Washington. Four brothers and two sisters survive.

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DID NOT CALL AMERICANS "IDIOTIC YANKEES"

Von Papen Says Expression Referred to Publishers of a New York Newspaper.

NOW AT SAN FRANCISCO FAIR

Accompanied by Prince von Hatzfeldt, Will Leave Next Tuesday for Mexico—Purpose of Visit Not Revealed in Washington.

SAN FRANCISCO, September 25.—Captain Franz von Papen, military attaché to the German embassy at Washington, who is here with Prince von Hatzfeldt, counselor of the embassy, denied to-day that the expression "Idiotic Yankees" contained in the letter entrusted to J. F. J. Archibald, and intercepted by the British authorities, was intended to apply to American people.

"The much-discussed letter was to my wife," he said. "In passing, it may be said that publishing a man's letter to his wife is deemed bad form. When the British authorities at Falmouth found these letters on Mr. Archibald, they pounced with avidity on the two words that have made all this trouble. They published only an excerpt of my letter, thus changing its meaning entirely. My wife, or any one else reading the letter from start to finish, would have gathered that the expression 'Idiotic Yankees' referred to the publishers of a New York newspaper. The newspaper had been calling us conspirators and other objectionable epithets. It grew especially vehement after a portfolio containing certain of our private papers had been stolen from one of our men on the train. In writing to my wife, I dealt with these publications. Not a word did the British publish about those parts of my letter."

Captain von Papen, who insisted that his explanation be considered as an amicable discussion and not as an interview, said that he was here for a few days to visit the exposition and amuse himself, and that after his vacation he would return to his post at Washington.

Captain von Papen and Prince von Hatzfeldt will leave next Tuesday for Mexico. It was announced to-day. Both men maintain silence as to their exact destination and the object of their visit.

NO EXPLANATION OF VISIT TO MEXICO

WASHINGTON, September 25.—There are no officials of the German embassy in the city to explain why Captain von Papen and Prince Hatzfeldt are going to Mexico.

Ever since Captain von Papen became involved in the incident which led to President Wilson's request for the recall of Dr. Dumba, the Austrian ambassador, it has been intimated that the captain's offense was no less serious than the ambassador's, and that some similar action might be taken in his case.

Von Papen is also assigned by the German government as military attaché to its legation in Mexico, and he might with propriety pay a visit to Mexico City.

Officials learned of the military attaché's impending departure without comment, but with some interest.

BULGARIA MERELY DECLARES AN ARMED NEUTRALITY

SOFIA, September 25 (via London).—It is semi-officially stated that Bulgaria has merely declared an armed neutrality, like Holland and Switzerland at the beginning of the war, and will continue conversations with the two belligerent groups.

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